

the Republicans' bills clearly have done nothing to lower gas prices as the price of a barrel of oil has settled above \$70 a barrel, the highest price in our history.

Today, Madam Speaker, oil closed at \$114 a barrel. Democrats have a plan to lower gas prices taking America in a new direction. We're ready to see this new plan. I don't understand why the Democratic leadership won't bring out the new plan, why there is not an outcry from their membership to see the new plan.

MR. PRESIDENT, REAL PEOPLE NEED YOUR HELP TO REDUCE OIL PRICES

(Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, let's talk about what this House has done already without any participation from our Republican colleagues or from the President of the United States.

We've passed legislation cracking down on those who would take advantage of this situation by price gouging with little to no participation from the other side of the aisle and a President's threatened veto. We've passed legislation cracking down on the multinational oil cartels who would fix prices at much damage to American consumers without little to any help from the other side of the aisle and a threatened Presidential veto. And we've passed legislation rescinding the billions in tax giveaways that the prior Congress gave to the oil companies and turned them around to give them to tax benefits for homeowners and businesses who want to invest in renewable energy without any help from the other side of the aisle and with the President threatening a veto.

Madam Speaker, people are hurting, real people, not oil company executives, and we need both sides of the aisle and the President of the United States working to fix it.

RECOGNIZE WORLD HEMOPHILIA DAY

(Mr. PRICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I'm pleased to rise today in celebration of World Hemophilia Day in which we recognize the serious challenges of those worldwide who suffer from hemophilia, a day in which we raise awareness to fight for a cure.

Hemophilia is a rare genetic disorder in which the blood doesn't clot causing excessive bleeding and easy bruising. Without proper treatment, it can lead to organ damage, serious joint and muscle problems, and terrible pain. Those with hemophilia often live in a world unknown to others, anxious about even minor injuries or cuts because what is minor for most people

can be a major problem for those with hemophilia.

As a physician, I'm confident that with attention, diligence, innovation, and scientific progress, we will improve the lives of those afflicted with this troubling disease and realize a cure.

Madam Speaker, hemophilia is a daunting condition requiring vigilant care, but we see a day where patients need not fear its pain or its consequences. I'm proud to stand today in support of World Hemophilia Day.

WITH ECONOMIC DOWNTURN, IRAQ MONEY CAN BE BETTER SPENT AT HOME

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, as taxpayers filed their income tax this week, many were probably wondering just how much of their individual taxes would be invested in Iraq instead of here in the U.S. at home. Consider that every single second, the Bush administration is spending \$4,000 in Iraq. That means that income taxes paid by the average taxpayer would not even cover the cost of one second of this war.

This country is already facing difficult economic times. We cannot afford to continue spending \$339 million a day on a war that has no strategy for victory. If we invested one day of this sum in America instead, we could give 2.6 million American children access to medical and dental care, or we could hire more than 2,000 more border patrol agents to protect our borders. And we could send 18,000 more students to college.

Madam Speaker, at a time when Americans are getting squeezed at the pump and the supermarket and are suffering in the housing market, Washington Republicans need to realize that we should prioritize the needs of America over those of Iraq.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PROMISE OF CLEANING UP WASHINGTON?

(Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I come today to the floor to point out something that's really already been pointed out in the press, and that is, as they say, that the Democrats, unfortunately, have horrifically failed as the majority party getting most anything done. Now, they made promises after promises to help the American people, and maybe it's no surprise that most of those promises have come to naught and have been broken.

This is most evident by the recent Democrat budget. It includes a massive \$683 billion tax increase which only further burdens our children, kills jobs, hurts small businesses, and basically

just punishes the American family. And worst of all, this budget was created to finance wasteful spending and the special interests here in Washington.

So what happened to all of those promises of cleaning up Washington and cutting spending? Well, it seems they simply got lost in the shuffle of all of their spending taxpayers' dollars.

PASS A CAP-AND-TRADE SYSTEM

(Mr. INSLEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, I want to share a little note of optimism we heard yesterday in our Global Warming and Energy Independence Committee. We had a group of venture capitalists and investors come before us, and they told us that they were supremely confident that America can create a clean-energy economy that is based on new types of technology so we can solve our global warming problem and wean ourselves off our addiction of Middle Eastern oil. It was very heartening. But they told us they need one thing to really open up the floodgates of technology. They need a cap-and-trade system to cap carbon dioxide and really spur investment.

The President yesterday gave short shrift to that. He was disappointing. We've got to provide leadership here to get this job done. His message was sort of a "can't-do" message for a "can-do" people, we Americans. Let's get this job done. Pass a cap-and-trade system. We will have a burst of new economic growth in this country.

MR. CARTER, RECONSIDER YOUR PLANS TO MEET WITH HAMAS

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, on behalf of my constituents in Tennessee's Seventh District, I rise to protest President Jimmy Carter's decision to meet with the leadership of Hamas, a group designated by the U.S. State Department as international terrorists. They see this as an outrageous act, something that is a disgrace to the men and women who have protected this Nation.

Madam Speaker, Islamo-Fascist terrorism is the plague of our time. Every American official, past and present, should stand ready to help destroy it and to eradicate its philosophy of hate. My constituents feel that by meeting with Hamas, Mr. Carter a former President, undermines the critical goal and only goads the enemy further.

I urge Mr. Carter to reconsider his ill-conceived plan, join the rest of us in our collective to eradicate Islamo-Fascist terrorism and to halt any plan to prop up the enemy.